

FAST FACTS:

The K-12 Education forecasts include three program areas: K-12/Running Start, Special Education, and Bilingual Education.

K-12 Basic Education

The K-12 Basic Education caseload includes K-12, Running Start, and about 570 students in the UW Transition Program, attending Summer School, or receiving ancillary services from local school districts.

- This caseload includes over one million students.
- Enrollment in grades 1-12 is forecast based on prior year K-11 enrollment using assumptions about year-to-year retention, net migration, and crossover to and from private and home-schooling.
- About 14,300 out of 162,000 grade 11 and 12 students attended community college classes under the Running Start program in October 2005.

Special Education

The Special Education caseload consists of children in the Age 0-2 program for developmentally delayed infants and toddlers and K-12 students in the Age 3-21 program receiving services through their school district.

The Age 0-2 caseload is about 3,400.

- The program is optional and not all school districts participate. Legislation passed in 2006 will require the program in all school districts by September 2009.
- Some districts provide direct services while others contract out to local agencies.

The Age 3-21 caseload is about 118,300.

- Basic state funding is indexed to 12.7 percent of K-12 enrollment.
- Districts with exceptional needs may apply for additional state “safety net” funding.

Bilingual Education

The Bilingual Education caseload consists of children in K-12 with a primary language other than English and whose English language skills sufficiently impair learning in an all English classroom.

- The current caseload averages about 76,900 students or about 7.5 percent of K-12 enrollment.
- Districts with Bilingual Education programs receive about \$700 in additional state funding for each student.
- A total of 141 languages are spoken by students in the program.
- The most common languages are:
 - 63% - Spanish
 - 19% - Russian, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Korean, Somali, Tagalog or Cambodian
- Over half of the 141 languages were spoken by less than 10 students each state-wide.
- The proportion of students in Bilingual Education for more than five years decreased from 9.3 percent in 1997-98 to an estimated* 7.6 percent in 2003-04.

*NOTE: a change in data collection procedures in 2003 prevents a direct comparison of length of stay from pre-2003 to post-2003.